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Message Text

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50
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 PC-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 COME-00 IGA-02 OMB-01

DRC-01 /168 W
---------- 037199
R 041330Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2742
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 0719

JOINT STATE-AID-PEACE CORPS MESSAGE

AF/C FOR COHEN AND SIEFKEN

AID FOR DANIELLS

DAKAR FOR STAGLIANO

NAIROBI FOR REDSO

E. O. 11652: GDS
SUBJ: AID TO RWANDA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TWO INCIDENTS IN LAST TWO DAYS ILLUSTRATE GROWING RWANDAN DISAPPOINTMENT WITH LACK OF US RESPONSE TO RWANDAN AID REQUESTS. THIS SENTIMENT COMPLICATING EMBASSY'S DEALINGS WITH GOR. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR AUGUST LINDT TOLD ME DECEMBER 4 HE IS HEARING INCREASINGLY BITTER COMMENTS FROM HIGH RWANDAN OFFICIALS ABOUT USG DELAY IN INFORMING
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GOR OF PLANNED US ASSISTANCE TO TOURISM DEVELOPMENT.

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LINDT ADDED THIS FEELING CREATING NEGATIVE ATTITUDE IN
SOME RWANDAN QUARTERS TOWARD PEACE CORPS PROPOSAL
RECENTLY PRESENTED TO GOR. ACCORDING TO CERTAIN
RWANDAN OFFICIALS, RWANDAN GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN LED TO
EXPECT SIGNIFICANT US AID TO RWANDA IN TOURISM FIELD
AND WAS NOW BEING OFFERED "TINY" PC PROJECT.

3. I ASSURED
LINDT PC PROPOSAL AND AID TO RWANDAN
TOURISM WERE SEPARATE MATTERS. IN OUR VIEW, PC
PROPOSAL, THOUGH MODEST AT START, COULD BE EXPANDED
IN TIME AND MAKE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO RWANDAN
DEVELOPMENT. ON OTHER HAND, RWANDAN TURN-DOWN OF PC
PROPOSAL ON GROUNDS IT TOO SMALL WOULD HAVE DISCOURAGING
EFFECT ON AID/W CONSIDERATION OF OTHER WAYS IN
WHICH TO HELP RWANDA. I ADDED THAT IF SMALL PC
PROGRAM COULD BE STARTED, PCV'S COULD POSSIBLY BE
RECRUITED FOR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ENTREPRENEURIAL
TRAINING, WHICH DIRECTLY RELATED TO TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT. LINDT WAS THANKFUL FOR THIS INFO AND
SAID HE WOULD TRY DISCREETLY TO ENCOURAGE GOR
GO AHEAD WITH PEACE CORPS PROJECT AND BE PATIENT RE
EXPECTED US TOURISM ASSISTANCE.

4. FURTHER INDICATION OF EMBASSY'S DIFFICULT
POSITION VIS-A-VIS GOR CAME UP DECEMBER 3 WHEN I
TRIED ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY
SECGEN TO DISCUSS CAMBODIAN ISSUE AT UNGA (STATE 236134,
KIGALI 0716). IT WAS ONLY THROUGH STRONGEST INSISTENCE
THAT I MANAGED OBTAIN MEETING WITH SECGEN TO DISCUSS
THIS URGENT MATTER. IT CLEAR THAT DIFFICULTY IN
GAINING ACCESS TO KEY GOR OFFICIALS DIRECTLY RELATED
TO RWANDAN DISAPPOINTMENT WITH LACK OF US RESPONSE
TO REQUESTS FOR AID.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS NEED FOR CAREFUL
STUDY OF WAYS IN WHICH US CAN ASSIST RWANDAN TOURISM.
RWANDANS, HOWEVER, OBVIOUSLY BECOMING
CONVINCED US DRAGGING FEET OR TRYING TO WRIGGLE OUT
OF COMMITMENT. WHAT APPEARS TO BE NEEDED IS EARLY
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REAFFIRMATION THAT WE WILL COME THROUGH AND INDICATION
OF APPROXIMATE SIZE US CONTRIBUTION EVEN IN ABSENCE
DETAILS OF PACKAGE.
SHOSTAL

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TOURISM, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, TOURISM PROMOTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KIGALI00719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KIGALI JOINT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731156/aaaabouq.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AID TO RWANDA
TAGS: EAID, RW, PC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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